

The Court of Heaven

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TEXT—I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne.—Rev. 1:11.

The Bible represents God as a king upon his throne.

About the throne are the angels, the courtiers of heaven. They appear in graded ranks, "principalities and powers, might and dominions," there is an "archangel," and there are some who "stand in the presence of God."

We believe that these facts are of practical value for our daily life.

1. We are known at court. In the book of Esther (6:1) we are told how the records were brought to King Ahasuerus one night when he was asleep. He found therein an account of a great service rendered to him by Mordecai, the Jew, and Mordecai fared well because his name was in the annals of the Persian court. How may we rejoice that our names are "written in heaven" (Luke 10:20; Hebrews 12:23), and, more specifically, "in the book of life" (Phil. 4:3). Ahasuerus asked, "What shall be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honor?" And we may inquire, "What shall be done to the man whom the King of kings delighteth to honor?"

2. We are served by heavenly courtiers. "Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?"

A Remarkable Experience.

When Philip Doddridge, the noted expositor and hymn writer, was a boy, he fell from a horse and people pronounced it a miracle that he was not killed. Late in life he dreamed he had died and gone to heaven. He was taken into a gallery of pictures exhibiting scenes from his early life, and lot here was set forth the almost forgotten events of his boyhood. But in the picture he saw one figure whose presence had not been thought of before; a mighty angel was shown, bearing him up in his hands as he fell from the horse, lest he be dashed against the stones. How may we rejoice that he gave his angels charge over us, and can tell how many wondrous deliverances and unexpected ministries have been wrought by angelic hands!

Their blessed ministry not only pursues us through life, but blesses us at death. "The beggar died and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom." One suggests that they may have taken Lazarus around by the Milky Way on his journey home. Matthew Henry quaintly says: "One angel one would think sufficient, but here are more, as many as were sent for Elijah. Amasis, king of Egypt, had his chariot drawn by kings, but what was that honor to this? Saints ascend in the virtue of Christ's ascension; but this convoy of angels is added for state and decorum—what were the bearers at the rich man's funeral, though probably those of the first rank, compared with Lazarus' bearers? The angels were not shy of touching him, for his sores were on his body, not on his soul; that was presented without spot or wrinkle or any such thing."

Earth Teaching Heaven.

2. We instruct these heavenly courtiers. Paul tells us that God's gracious work for us through Christ is "to the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in the heavenly places might be made known through the church the manifold wisdom of God" (Eph. 3:10). Earth teaches heaven about the "variegated" wisdom of God. Angels learn in us how God can be just and yet justify the sinner! In the cross they find the answer to the question and marvel and adore. When Christ came and was rejected by the world, with what wonderment they must have seen him begin to gather from that world of rebels a "people for his name," who should be his own body and bride. They behold a blasphemous, slave-dealing sailor named John Newton, so transformed that he begins to sing:

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear;
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,
And drives away his fear.

The love and grace of God is displayed to angelic eyes on the back ground of a world of sinners.

4. We shall be received at court. "Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of Man also confess before the angels of God" (Luke 12:8). Suppose we know we would one day be received by the King of England. How would we practice the graces becoming the king's presence? Are we wearing the garments of salvation? Are we learning the language of Canaan? Are we walking "worthy of the vocation whereto we are called?"

A Practical Test.

We have heard of a slave whose master had died. He was asked if he thought his master had gone to heaven, and gave this answer: "When master was going to New York or Boston, I always knew it. He talked about it beforehand, and I had to get everything ready. But I never heard him say anything about going to heaven. I never knew of him getting ready. No, I don't think he could have gone to heaven." Would men judge from your behavior that you expect to stand some day in the presence of the King?

The loud laugh, that speaks the vacant mind.—Goldsmith.

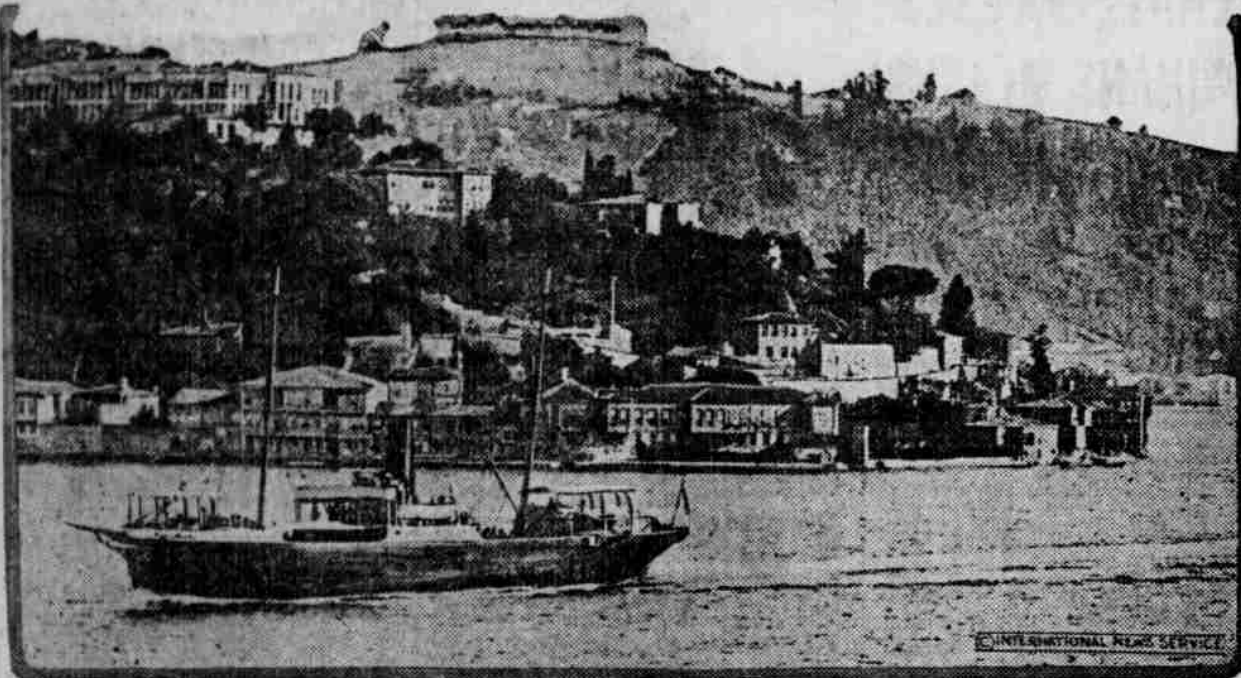
Know the true value of time: snatch, seize and enjoy every moment of it.—Lord Chesterfield.

Failure has an educative value, though it is a very costly teacher.—Rev. Charles Inwood.

After the sorrow of the ebbing tide the surging flood returns in joy as fast.—O. Thaxter.

Do what you can do well, and do well whatever you do do.—William J. Burroughs.

A VILLAGE ON THE BOSPORUS



Crundall, a village on the Asiatic side of the Bosphorus, used as a residential quarter by British subjects.

CONVICTS KNITTING FOR THE POLES



In line with his policy of surrounding the convicts with humanizing influences, Warden Osborne of Sing Sing prison has recently installed a class in knitting, and over two hundred of the convicts took up the work. The picture shows a number of these men industriously knitting socks for the Poles. Warden Osborne got the idea from Mrs. Ernest Schelling, who is shown with him on the left of the picture.

MONTESSORI SCHOOL IN NEW YORK CITY



To prove that the Montessori system of education is both practical and available for the poor children as well as those who have every advantage a school for poor children has just been established in the upper East side in New York. The picture shows Mrs. Ernest Thompson Seton at the opening of the school.

THREATENED BY THE ALLIES' WARSHIPS



A general view of Constantinople showing the Galata bridge which connects European Turkey and Asiatic Turkey.

CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS

Using a special form of stoker and grate, a German power plant is making steam with cinders from locomotives.

Two stones resting on each other in the River Tinto of Spain are soon united by a deposit which forms over them.

The flesh of the forequarters of the beaver has somewhat the flavor of beef and the hindquarters have a fishy taste.

It is said that a noted British entomologist recently paid \$1,000 for a rare specimen of flea which is occasionally found in the fur of the sea otter.

Near the forest of Argonne, where the German crown prince is said to have had his headquarters, is the town of Meneshou, where poor Louis XVI and his family were recognized at the posting station while disguised in an attempt to fly from France.

They were sent back to Paris, where he was beheaded in January, 1793, and his queen in the following October.

John Kartwright of Evona, Mo., age ninety-seven, has never used tobacco.

There are more amateur wireless operators in Philadelphia than in any other city in the country.

Some of the finest examples of electrically equipped coal mines are to be found in Nova Scotia.

Czar Nicholas of Russia is said to own more costly chinaware than any other person in the world.

The Mohammedan does not wear silk because it is the product of a worm. He regards it as unclean.

A sportsman's battalion of 1,300 members is a unique English organization to be made up exclusively of men of gentle birth between forty and forty-five, and to include fox hunters, grouse shooters, golfers and cricket players.

By turning on the electric lights in the home of E. R. Barton of Waterville, Me., the other night, when the house was supposed to be unoccupied, a cat started a burglar scare which sent Patrolman Donnelly to the scene.

He discovered that the cat had playfully pulled the spring attached to the electric light, thus turning it on.

From twenty to twenty-five cents a day is paid the women employed in the rubber industry in British Guiana.

Dr. H. H. Fryette of Chicago asserts that the high steps of street cars are responsible for much lumbago and sciatica, as the constant or even occasional reaching for the high car steps causes a twisting of the sacroiliac joint, which produces a pressure on the nerves, thereby shutting off the regular flow of blood and producing severe pain that eventually develop into lumbago and sciatica.

A method has been invented for stopping a leak in a vessel with compressed air without injury to other parts of the vessel.

Two of the recruits from Toronto, who recently sailed for England, are sons of a man who fought in South Africa, grandsons of a British soldier and great-grandsons of a soldier who fought at Waterloo.

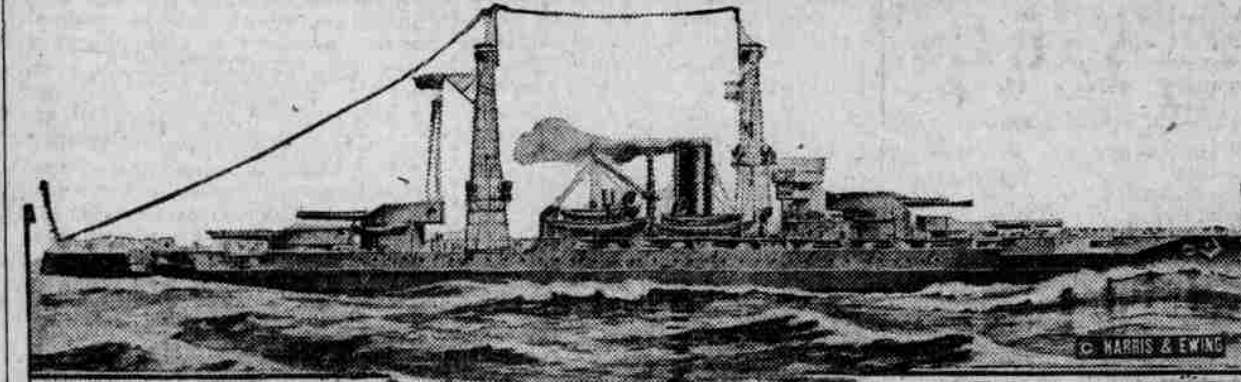
Lowell Hartshorn of Derry, N. H., is exhibiting a potato vine which measures six feet eight inches. Until the frost came the tops stood perfectly upright, reaching above an ordinary man's head.

"SAFETY FIRST" FOR A DUTCH LINER



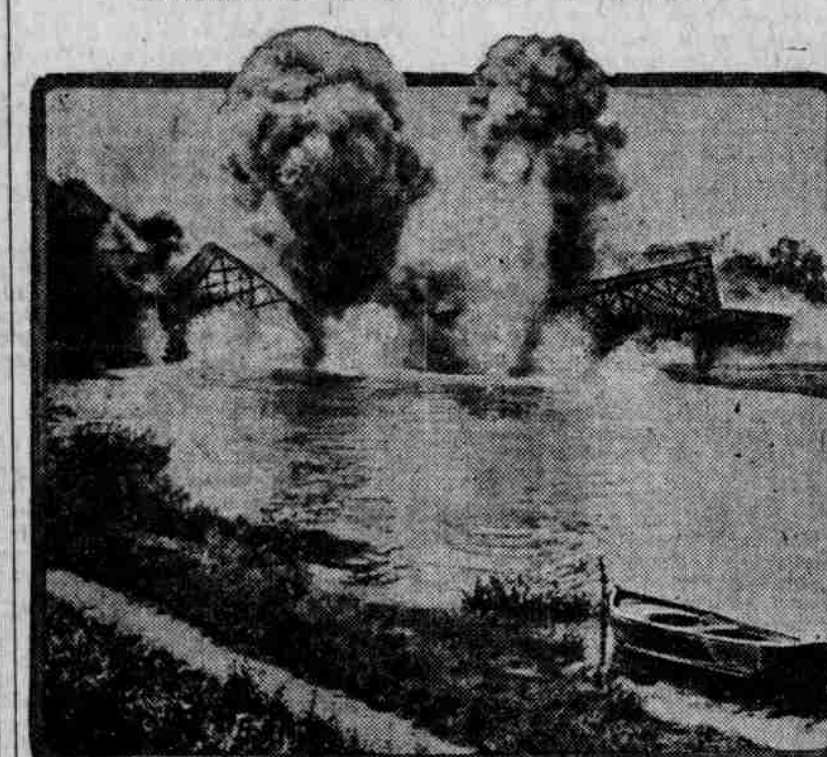
Large letters painted on the side of this Dutch vessel proclaim her strict neutrality. The name was painted on before she sailed from Hoboken for Rotterdam recently.

MONSTER BATTLESHIP TO BE LAUNCHED



The battleship Pennsylvania will be launched at Newport News on March 16. Miss Elizabeth Kolb of Germantown, Pa., will be the sponsor. The Pennsylvania will be the largest vessel in the United States navy, being 699 feet long, 97 feet beam and 31,000 tonnage.

GERMANS BLOW UP A BRIDGE



Remarkable photograph taken at X—, where the Germans blew up the bridge as they retreated.

AEROPLANE SCOUT RETURNS TO REPORT



This picture shows one of the armored aeroplanes of the British corps, snapped just as it returned to its base after having gone on an important scouting expedition. The lieutenant, who had been making observations of the enemy's positions, is hurrying off to report his findings to the commander of the division.

CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS

Labor exchanges, on a municipal basis, are to be erected in Denmark.

London last year imported \$339,114 carcasses of frozen mutton and lamb, mainly from Australia.

Japan's government forests last year yielded \$5,350,000 in revenues and consumed \$2,327,000 in expenses.

To enable a motorist to smoke while driving, a New York inventor has patented a perforated metal shell to incase a cigar and retard the draft.

In Wichita, Kan., a "September Morn" picture attracted so much attention in a show window that it had to be clothed to relieve the congestion on the sidewalk.

The independent grand duchy of Luxembourg has an area of 998 square miles and is bounded by Belgium, Germany and France. It belongs to the German customs union, in American consular jurisdiction the agency at Luxembourg is included in the Rotterdam district. This grand duchy should not be confused with Luxembourg province, in Belgium—the largest province in that country.

Greece has a labor federation composed of workers in 17 industries.

Watson Tyron of Windsor, Conn., age ninety-two, went deer hunting.

Russia has been making plans for the construction of great storehouses for grain at many points.

The manufacture of fuel briquettes from sawdust, shavings and naphthalene is a new Colorado industry.

To enable visitors to get a closer view of the whirlpool of Niagara Falls, a passenger-carrying cable will be built across the river.

A novelty is a two-legged chair, to be so fastened to a table or desk as to be folded under the latter when unoccupied.

A court ruling in Washington was needed to convince the taxi owners that their charges were under control of the public utilities commission. The taxi toll in Washington put the taxis of other cities in the piker class.

The government is encouraging experiments in France with a device to protect against hail, essentially a large lightning rod of pure copper, which is said to affect atmospheric electricity so that hailstones cannot form.

HE HAS GREAT TASK



This is M. Bark, the minister of finance of Russia, who is confronted with the difficult problem of raising the immense sums needed by Russia to prosecute the war.

To Aid Cattle Raising.

Brand Whitlock, American minister to Belgium, notices the state department that he has received from the German military authorities a copy of an order issued by them relative to the exemption of cattle and their food from military requisition when imported by the Comité National de Secours et d'Alimentation. Mr. Whitlock forwards the text of the order as follows:

"In order to restore the breeding of horses and cattle, which through the military events have been disturbed, it is hereby ordered that stallions, bulls, and other male beasts used for breeding, as well as female animals with young, and female animals of special value to breeding, also mares with foals, cows with calves, and other female animals with young, and lastly cows which have no more than two teeth, are exempt from requisition.

"The above is made known to horse and cattle breeders by a proclamation, with the invitation that each procure appropriate male breeding animals in cases where there are none or not enough at their disposition."

"CASCARETS" FOR SLUGGISH BOWELS

No sick headache, sour stomach, biliousness or constipation by morning.

Get a 10-cent box now. Turn the rascals out—the headache, biliousness, indigestion, the sick, sour stomach and foul gases—turn them out to-night and keep them out with Cascarets.

Millions of men and women take a Cascaret now and then and never know the misery caused by a lax liver, clogged bowels or an upset stomach.

Don't put in another day of distress. Let Cascarets cleanse your stomach; remove the sour fermenting food; take the excess bile from your liver and carry out all the constipated waste matter and poison in the bowels. Then you will feel great.

A Cascaret to-night straightens you out by morning. They work while you sleep. A 10-cent box means any drug store means a clear head, sweet stomach and clean, healthy liver and bowel action for months. Children love Cascarets because they never gripe or sicken. Adv.

ON RUSSIA'S MIGHTY RIVER

Empire Owes Much to Historic Volga—Which Plays Important Part in Life of Nation.

In Russia the rivers are large and sluggish, owing to their great length and slight fall. The Volga is the longest river in Europe. It is 2,300 miles in length—that is, three times as long as the Rhine—yet its total fall is only a little over eight hundred feet.

The peat bogs in the Valdai hills, where it takes its rise, are only 150 feet above sea level, while Astrakhan, at the mouth, is 65 feet below the level of the sea.

The Russian fondly speaks and sings of it as "Matushka Volga," or "Little Mother Volga." In gratitude, no doubt, for the bounteous supply of fish, fowl and game, as well as comforts and pleasures afforded by this historic stream, which plays so important a part in the economic life of the nation.

The products of Asia and Europe are carried on its waters; the two thousand odd river steamers are always busy, and the huge rafts, consisting often of thousands of logs, being floated or pulled down the stream, represent a small portion of the riches of Russia's inexhaustible forest lands.

DRINK LOTS OF WATER TO FLUSH THE KIDNEYS

Eat Less Meat and Take Salts for Backache or Bladder Trouble—Neutralize Acids.

Uric acid in meat excites the kidneys, they become overworked; get sluggish, ache, and feel like lumps of lead. The urine becomes cloudy; the bladder is irritated, and you may be obliged to seek relief two or three times during the night. When the kidneys clog you must help them flush off the body's urinous waste or you'll be a real sick person shortly. At first you feel a dull misery in the kidney region, you suffer from backache, sick headache, dizziness, stomach gets sour, tongue coated and you feel rheumatic twinges when the weather is bad.

Eat less meat, drink lots of water; also get from any pharmacist four ounces of Jad Salts; take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast for a few days and your kidneys will then act fine. This famous salt is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for generations to clean clogged kidneys and stimulate them to normal activity, also to neutralize the acids in urine, so it no longer is a source of irritation, thus ending bladder weakness.

Jad Salts is inexpensive, cannot injure; makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink which everyone should take now and then keep the kidneys clean and active. Druggists here say they sell lots of Jad Salts to folks who believe in overcoming kidney trouble while it is only trouble.—Adv.

NEGLECT YOUR SCALP.

And Lose Your Hair. Cuticura Prevents It. Trial Free.

Cuticura Soap shampoos cleanse and purify the scalp of dandruff while the Ointment soothes and heals the irritated scalp skin. Dandruff and itching are hair destroyers. Get acquainted with these supereminent emollients for the skin and scalp. Sample each free by mail with Book. Address postcard, Cuticura, Dept. X, Boston. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

PER CAPITA.

Dud Jones had moved from Polk county to McMin county to achieve wealth and fame. After five years friends inquired about Dud, seeing information from Jim Ledbetter, of McMin county.

"None," he said, "Dud's not gone far. He's just a per capita in our midst. The census takers come around and figure out what the per capita use of whiskey, corn, coal oil, and such things. Well, Dud's just one of them census per capita."

How She Loves Her!

Ho—Yes; Ermyatruke was born on April 2.

She—Late as usual! Indigestion never plays fair; it always hits below the belt.—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Studying Up. "What makes you say 'roll' and 'roll' for 'girl' and 'curly'?" "I'm going to Germany and I want to speak a language that won't be mistaken for English."

Hudson Maxim says the aerial bomb is a moral force. Has a tendency to make a fellow good.